

Kirsch, George B., *The Creation of American Team Sports: Baseball and Cricket, 1838-72*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989. Pp. xiv, 227. 13 black and white plates. \$27.50 (U.S.)

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diphtheria. "Once noted for its handsome thoroughfares and majestic elms," Galishoff observes, Newark had become "a vast cesspool of human and animal excrement and industrial wastes." What had induced this ill-fated transition?

Rapid industrialization in the nineteenth century had changed the face of Newark. Unbridled business expansion, a swollen population, and lack of planning had combined to create major problems. By 1860, a private company upon which Newark had relied for its water supply clearly had failed to meet the needs of the growing metropolis. Newark's leaders decided to draw water from the Passaic River only to find that it too had become filthy with refuse from several nearby New Jersey communities. Finally, city officials abandoned the Passaic and purchased water from a new and cleaner source. When Newark eliminated its contaminated cesspools and wells, it replaced them with an underground sewage system which proved haphazard, badly designed, and inadequate. As late as 1919, Newark, like several other American cities, still had not discovered a satisfactory method for garbage disposal.

Galishoff points out that an elite class of businessmen generally formulated civic policy and controlled public agencies. In his concluding chapter, he appears to give it credit for spearheading reforms and cites Daniel J. Boorstin's observation that society had produced a singular American type of business and community leader whose "starting belief was the interfusing of public and private property." In the body of his work, however, Galishoff makes it quite clear that businessmen favoured improvements only when they appeared

to foster their own interests. Because they needed so much water in their manufacturing plants, Newark's businessmen sponsored improvements in the water supply system; the easy access to water which the new scheme provided also helped to reduce the cost of their fire insurance. Board of Health regulations required property owners to tap into the municipal sewage system, but politically powerful slumlords were allowed to ignore the law in Newark's poorer sections. Business leaders waged relentless war against cholera which threatened people of all ranks. In the case of smallpox, however, Newark's upper and middle classes protected themselves by vaccination while the poor remained afflicted by the disease for several decades. Denial of adequate funding by business-minded city administrators not only hindered the effectiveness of the police and fire departments but also rendered the Board of Health ineffectual for twenty years. Change came only when it protected or enhanced business.

Yet, the masses also contributed to Newark's insalubrity. Most of the city's poor opposed the removal or regulation of cesspools and wells since they viewed them as harmless; equally, they resisted compulsory vaccination against pestilential diseases. Poor people generally welcomed clean water but many fought against other hygienic measures when they failed to grasp the connection between lack of cleanliness and disease.

Politics in Newark tended to obscure health issues; tension developed between native Anglo-Saxon Protestants and the new Irish and German Catholic immigrants. Issues such as "blue" laws,

beer gardens on Sunday, prohibition, and public support for parochial schools took precedence over sanitation, drainage, and disease control. A weak city government used agencies such as the Board of Health chiefly as an instrument for patronage; those who lacked the ability for police or fire department employment regularly found jobs on the Board's staff.

Newark did not stand alone. By his careful research and skilful analysis of the interplay of political, economic, and cultural forces, Galishoff presents this New Jersey city as a microcosm of urban evolution in 19th century America.

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Kirsch, George B., *The Creation of American Team Sports: Baseball and Cricket, 1838-72*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1989. Pp. xiv, 227. 13 black and white plates. \$27.50 (U.S.)

The Creation of American Team Sports is an addition to the University of Illinois Press series, "Sport and Society", which includes some excellent contributions on baseball from Melvin Adelman and Rob Ruck. George Kirsch offers to fill in areas of baseball's history which other scholars have bypassed or overlooked, including Adelman's study of the game in New York from 1820 to 1870. He is successful in as far as he expands upon the geographical focus of Adelman's work to include the game's early years in Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and other major centres. Kirsch also delivers a more satisfactory explanation of the evolution of the game from its pre-

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modernization folk antecedents, and provides a valuable understanding of baseball's relationship to the English game of rounders. For these reasons alone it is a valuable read for baseball enthusiasts, but in many other ways the book fails to deliver on its promises.

Kirsch may be too ambitious when he suggests that "this volume also presents a complete narrative and analysis of early American cricket." Cricket is given much less space than baseball and even less analysis. The reader becomes aware that in the post Civil War period cricket's popularity lags far behind that of baseball, but Kirsch never seems to say exactly why. In the chapter dedicated to both games in the war years, he has the perfect opportunity to suggest some possibilities as to why baseball was the preferred game among the troops. Was the short duration of a baseball game more convenient than the three day cricket matches? Was this fact also a reason why working men in the post war years preferred baseball?

Kirsch could have provided a greater understanding of cricket by including some mention of the scholarly works on the game by British historians such as Keith Sandiford and Brian Stoddart. The reader would have been made aware that British cricket was not an industrial sport, but a game which was codified in the Georgian period under the direction of a leisured aristocracy and, therefore, never intended to be convenient for working men. Without understanding that English cricket was a game where the division of labour on the pitch was class based, and that wealthy batters hired professional fielders, the debate over pay for play in American baseball and cricket seems confusing. Kirsch may be

forgiven for the lack of current secondary sources he employs in his discussion on baseball - few exist - but the high quality of analysis employed by historians of English leisure, and especially cricket, would have supplied him with needed background, and a wide array of skilful analytical approaches to sports history in general.

Throughout the book, the reader is asked to accept that baseball became the preferred game in America, but while this is true, Kirsch never really explains why. He is dissatisfied with Adelman's modernization theory, but offers no real alternative. Was it that Americans preferred their own game, or was it that the influx of non-British immigrants into the industrial centres of the north meant that there were fewer and fewer devotees of cricket as compared to baseball players?

There are some valuable aspects to this book, not the least of which is the discussion concerning the diaspora of baseball throughout the entire country. The spread of the game is diligently researched and presented with charm. Kirsch provides lighthearted stories of early games, such as contests between fat and skinny players, in a manner which conveys the good natured approach to baseball in its infancy. Other volumes in the "Sport and Society" series have offered powerful social analysis - Kirsch, however, fails to provide the type of analysis which would explain baseball's incredible popularity and the inability of cricket to generate the same interest in the post Civil War period. In fact, it is never clear why, if not for direct comparative purposes, Kirsch chose to incorporate the early histories of both games in the same work.

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Newell, Dianne and Greenhill, Ralph.,
Survivals: Aspects of Industrial Archaeology in Ontario. Erin, Ont: Boston Mills Press, 1989. Pp. 225. Illustrations, select bibliography, and index. \$39.50.

This attractive book is the joint effort of two long time workers in Canadian engineering and technological history. One is Dianne Newell who has also had a long interest in industrial archaeology. She wrote *Technology on the Frontier: Mining in Old Ontario*, which was published in 1986. Ralph Greenhill is a noted collector and writer on photography. His major interest is the history of engineering which led to *Engineer's Witness*, published in 1985. For this book each author has produced five essays, each one with 7 to 10 pages of text and 10 to 14 pages of photographs, both historical and modern. As Newell acknowledges in her introduction, the book is actually about their favourite sites in southern Ontario. Their selection starts with the Rideau Canal and covers Grand Trunk Railway bridges and stations, the Hamilton Pump House, Gooderham & Worts Distillery (Toronto), soap factories in London and Guelph, the Whirlpool Rapids Bridge (Niagara River), the St. Clair Tunnel (Sarnia), and the Peterborough Lift Lock.

The book deals almost exclusively with structures. The exceptions are two interesting essays by Newell on belt and line shafting and on the jerker rod system for pumping Lambton County oil wells. Power transmission, though vital to